



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS STUDENT ART AND LANGUAGE ARTS CONTEST OPEN

Students K-12 are welcome to submit visual and language arts entries for the 13th Environmental Awareness Student Art and Language Arts contest, held annually by the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission. Submissions are due by Friday, April 24, 2015.

The theme for the contest this year is **"Biodiversity in Our World."**

The contest, sponsored by the Alcoa Foundation, is open to all Louisiana students. Cash prizes are awarded to first, second and third place finishers, winning entries are featured on billboards and in newspapers in the artists communities, and the commission produces a calendar each year featuring the winners' works. Finally, winners, their families, teachers and principals are invited to a reception at the Louisiana Governor's Mansion.

View contest rules and details at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/artcontest> and download the official entry form at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/33526-louisianas-environmental-awareness-student-art-language-arts-contest/sala15entryform1.pdf>.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION STATE SYMPOSIUM OPEN FOR REGISTRATION , CALL GOES OUT FOR PRESENTERS AND EXHIBITORS

Registration is now open for the 2015 Louisiana Environmental Education State Symposium, to be held February 27-28, 2015 at the Baton Rouge Marriott. The registration form can be found at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/symposium-registration>.

The LEEC is seeking presenters to conduct 50-minute sessions featuring exemplary programs, hands-on workshops or lesson demonstrations. Educators who wish to present a session at the 2015 Environmental Education State Symposium, please visit our online proposal form at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/2015-environmental-education-state-symposium-presenter-proposal-form>.

Exhibitors are invited to view and download the exhibitors letter and Microsoft Word application form on the LEEC website. The exhibitor information letter is [here](#) and the application form is [here](#). Exhibitors wishing to pay by check may do so immediately by filling out the form and mailing it to the address provided. Exhibitors wishing to pay by credit card may contact Thomas Gresham at tgresham@wlf.la.gov for further instructions.

Volunteers Needed to Replant Coastal Forest

The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) and the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF) invite volunteers to register for their Coastal Forest restoration event on November 15th from 8:00 am to no later than 4:00 pm near St. Bernard. They seek up to 50 volunteers to plant 600 native trees in an area that was heavily impacted by past hurricanes. Volunteer efforts will help decrease the impacts of storm surge and increase forest resiliency for future storm events.

[Visit this page to register.](#)

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

STARBUCKS FOUNDATION

The Starbucks Foundation's Youth Leadership Grant Program supports organizations that provide young people, ages 15-24, a continuum of services in developing creative approaches to address pressing concerns in their communities. The deadline for submission of Letters of Inquiry is December 15, 2014.

<http://www.starbucks.com/responsibility/community/opportunity-youth/grant>

PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARDS

Sponsored by the EPA, the President's Environmental Youth Awards program recognizes young people for projects which demonstrate their commitment to the environment. The program is available to K-12 individuals, classes, and youth groups. Awards are presented in each of the EPA regions, and one project from each region is presented with a national award. The regional deadline for application is December 31, 2014.

<http://www2.epa.gov/education/presidents-environmental-youth-award>

LEXUS ECO CHALLENGE

The Lexus Eco Challenge is designed to educate and empower middle and high school students to take action to improve the environment. Within the topic of Land & Water or Air & Climate, students identify an environmental issue that affects their local community and devise an action plan. Be sure to check out the lesson plans and judging criteria. Submission deadline December 8 <http://lexus.scholastic.com/>

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITY

NSTA TEACHER AWARDS PROGRAM

NSTA is offering 19 different award programs that are administered by the Association and funded by various corporations and organizations. Many of the awards recognize teachers for their development and implementation of unique science programs and curricula, while others honor individuals who show outstanding leadership and dedication to the profession. Check them out at <http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx>, along with all other details. The submission deadline for most of the awards is November 30, 2014.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ECOLOGICAL TEACHING AND LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2015

The Master of Science in Ecological Teaching and Learning (ETL) is designed for educators from private and public schools, museums, nonprofit centers, environmental centers, and government organizations who want to deepen their understanding of ecology, sustainability, living systems, and ecological education and to apply their learning to their professional contexts. Teachers from across the disciplines—not just science teachers—complete this program. ETL is an 18 month accelerated program that includes two summer field experiences and distance learning in the fall and spring semesters. The first summer field experience is in a beautiful wild place and the second summer field experience is in a dynamic urban setting.

<http://www.lesley.edu/master-of-science/ecological-teaching-and-learning>

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